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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: January 5, 2006

TO: Examiner **Pankaj KUMAR**
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

RE: **Information Disclosure Statement**
U.S. Patent Application No.: **09/996,765**
First Named Inventor: **HITOMI, Akihiko**
Attorney Docket No.: **011573**
Confirmation No.: **4870**
Examiner: **Pankaj KUMAR**
Group Art Unit: **2631**

FROM: Darren R. Crew

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PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE SAFE AND CLEAR RECEIPT OF ALL PAGES BEING SENT

Dear Examiner Kumar:

In accordance with our telephone conversation January 5, 2006, enclosed is a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement and the four foreign documents that were filed at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 30, 2005.

Also, enclosed is a copy of the postcard receipt dated November 30, 2005, which was stamped by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, showing that the Information Disclosure Statement and the references cited were received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on that date.

Respectfully submitted,
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



Darren R. Crew
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DRC:llf

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